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## Thanking Our Veterans

November 2014



### A Message from the Governor

Our veterans bring admirable qualities to the civilian workforce: a strong work ethic, excellent problem solving capabilities, specialized training, and critical leadership skills. However, many veterans still face challenges when translating their military experience into marketable skills for a civilian career. And many employers find it difficult to identify and hire veteran applicants.

The O'Malley-Brown Administration set a [goal to achieve full employment for veterans](#), and this summer through [Operation Hire: Maryland's 100 Day veterans Hiring Challenge](#), 185 employers participated and hired over 360 veterans. This campaign built upon Maryland's [Veterans Full Employment Act of 2013](#), which removes certain employment barriers facing veterans and their families.

Across Maryland, Veteran Employment Representatives at American Job Centers are actively working to link veterans with employers. In FY2014, more than 12,000 veterans have already been served at the Job Centers and more than 5,300 veterans have been served by the Maryland Workforce Exchange or One-Stop Career Centers.

As we honor our nation's veterans this November, let's not only thank them for their service, but also ensure that we're supporting them as civilians.



### AROUND MARYLAND

#### **Waterfowl Festival**

*November 14-16, Easton*

Join neighbors on the Eastern Shore for a wildlife art and sportsman's expo, a celebration of small towns, and a commitment to conservation. Cost is \$15 per person.

#### **Best Buddies 5K & 1 Mile Fun Run**

*November 15, Cockeysville*

More than 500 runners and walkers will gather at Oregon Ridge Park in support of Best Buddies Maryland. After the race, enjoy live music, food, and many exciting post-race activities in the park. Cost is \$30 per person.

#### **Towson University Family Art Day**

*November 15, Towson*

Join Towson University's Community Art Center for a fun filled Family Art Day featuring gallery tours and drop-in art activities inspired by current exhibitions..

#### **Montgomery County Thanksgiving Parade**

*November 22, Silver Spring*

Bring the family for a fun afternoon of floats, balloons, marching bands, and other performers at the Montgomery County Thanksgiving Parade.

#### **Two-Mile Turkey Trot**

*November 22, Denton*

The annual Turkey Trot is a 2-mile walk, run, or jog for all ages from Denton Elementary School to Martinak State Park. Cost is \$8 per person or \$25 for a family of 4.

#### **Small Business Saturday**

*November 29, Across Maryland*

Shop Main Street and support local, small businesses across Maryland as part of the annual Small Business Saturday.

Thank you,  
Governor O'Malley

## What's happening?

### Maryland Named a Top Ten State for Energy Efficiency

For the fourth consecutive year, [Maryland has been named a top ten state](#) by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). Its annual State Energy Efficiency scorecard benchmarks the progress of state energy efficiency policies and programs. Under Governor O'Malley's leadership, Maryland has risen from the #20 spot in 2006 to its current position at #9.



Governor O'Malley has made energy efficiency a priority. One of the O'Malley-Brown Administration's 16 strategic goals is [reducing both per capita peak demand and per capita electricity consumption in Maryland by 15 percent by 2015](#). As of 2013, peak demand is down 14.6 percent and per capita consumption is down 10.1 percent. Additionally, as a result of the State's energy efficiency efforts, Marylanders have saved \$3.2 billion in lifetime energy costs.

### Combating Domestic Violence in Maryland

Last month, Governor O'Malley [visited the YWCA of Annapolis and Anne Arundel County](#) as part of the "Governing for Results" series to highlight the O'Malley-Brown Administration's [goal to drive down violent crimes committed against women and children by 25 percent by 2012](#).



Between 2006 and 2012, juvenile homicides were driven down 44 percent and female homicides were driven down 9 percent, reaching a total 26 percent drop from 2006 levels. In 2013, the O'Malley-Brown Administration renewed its commitment by setting a [new goal to drive down violent crime against women and children an additional 25 percent by 2018, compared to 2012 levels](#).

During his visit, Governor O'Malley also announced \$2.3 million in grants to organizations across Maryland under the federal Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). The grants from the [STOP VAWA Grant Program](#) will fund 73 projects by 57 organizations in every region of the state.

## Marylanders on the Move: Hollified Station Elementary School Students

Last month, Governor O'Malley joined students from Hollified Station Elementary School to participate in a [State Highway](#)



### Grand Illumination

November 30, Annapolis

Join all of Annapolis at the plaza next to Market House for an evening filled with fun and friends as Annapolis lights the city tree and kicks off the holiday season.

For more events around Maryland, visit the [Maryland Tourism Office](#) and follow [@TravelMD](#) on Twitter.

### MARYLAND TWEETS

 Follow us on Twitter!

[@GovernorOMalley](#): To create jobs, we're investing in schools, infrastructure & innovation like cybersecurity, & the US Chamber named MD #1 for STEM jobs.

[@AccessDNR](#): View our November 2014 video newsletter highlighting our Scales & Tales program and Nature Play Spaces.  
[youtu.be/Zi73WpuFsg0](http://youtu.be/Zi73WpuFsg0)

[@StateMaryland](#): The next round of Invest Maryland is open! Take a look at the past winner videos and apply!  
[ow.ly/Daqac](http://ow.ly/Daqac)

[@MDEnvironment](#): Always wanted to know what a TMDL is? Need a course in [#chesbay 101](#)? Watch our Secretary to learn more:  
[youtu.be/HeYyzmlr50w](http://youtu.be/HeYyzmlr50w)

[@MarylandDHMH](#): [#Questions](#) about [#Ebola](#), [#Marylanders?](#) Visit DHMH's page, [1.usa.gov/1rBgmt2](http://1.usa.gov/1rBgmt2). Or the CDC's page, [1.usa.gov/1vuGiN0](http://1.usa.gov/1vuGiN0). [#FactsNotFear](#)

[@ClimateChangeMD](#): Wind power is one of the most efficient, scalable and affordable renewable energy technologies. [#ActOnClimate](#)  
<http://ow.ly/CHA5L>

**Hashtag of the Month:** During November, use [#MDGivesThanks](#) to share what you are thankful for.

### MARYLAND VIDEOS

 Follow us on YouTube!

[Administration stream restoration project](#) on the Upper Little Patuxent River in Howard County.



Hollifield Station Elementary School is part of the [Explore and Restore Your Schoolshed program](#), which was launched by Governor O'Malley in 2013. Since then, approximately 100 schools in 23 counties have participated, introducing students to stream stewardship and ultimately benefiting the Bay. These projects are part of our larger effort to restore the health of the Chesapeake Bay and [reach a healthier Bay tipping point by 2025](#), one of the O'Malley-Brown Administration's [16 strategic goals](#) to move Maryland forward.

## [Innovation Maryland: Governor O'Malley is named Cybersecurity Leader](#)

Last month, The Center for Digital Government honored Governor O'Malley with the [Cybersecurity Leadership and Innovation Lifetime Achievement Award](#), highlighting Maryland's commitment to growing and strengthening the cybersecurity industry in the state.



Under the O'Malley-Brown Administration, Maryland implemented the National Governors Association's "Call for Action" for cybersecurity in state government, launched the [CyberMaryland Initiative](#), created [InvestMaryland](#), and established the [Cybersecurity Roundtable](#). And since taking office in 2007, the O'Malley-Brown Administration has invested \$84 million in emerging companies – including cybersecurity and information assurance firms – through InvestMaryland and the Maryland Venture Fund, and created the Cybersecurity Investment Incentive Tax Credit, for which a total of \$6 million has been authorized to incentivize and support cyber companies in Maryland.

Visit the [Maryland Department of Business & Economic Development](#) to learn more about Maryland's growing cybersecurity industry.



Last month, Governor O'Malley joined the [Department of Business and Economic Development](#) for the 2014 CyberMaryland Conference in Baltimore. The conference served as an opportunity to bring together cybersecurity leaders in business, government, and academia.

[Click here](#) to view highlights from the 2014 CyberMaryland Conference.

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